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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The editors are not responsible for opinions expressed in this department. All communications must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer to insure publication.

THE NIGHTINGALE SCHOOL

DEAR EDITOR: While Miss Maxwell was the guest of Dr. Hamilton at Bagatelle, this autumn, she visited the hospital in the Rue Cassignol. The nurses gave her an impromptu reception and offered her a little souvenir. Mademoiselle Rossignol, a probationer, made the enclosed address in French. I have translated it, as I thought you might like to publish it in the JOURNAL. I am also enclosing the Rev. Robert Davis' oration, delivered at the laying of the foundation stone of the American Nurses' Memorial in June, in case you have not received a copy of it. It was such a remarkably fine and impressive oration that it well merits publishing.¹ Last week I was out at Bagatelle for a few moments and was agreeably surprised to find the outside of the Memorial nearing completion. Dr. Hamilton says the architect has promised to get the roof on before the proverbial rainy winter months set in. In that way the building will be ready at the date the architect agreed upon.

Bordeaux, France

GERTRUDE CLARK CILHAY, R.N.

"Miss Maxwell: It is a great happiness for us all to receive you in our school and to express to you here our respectful affection. We feel ourselves attached to you, dear Miss Maxwell, not only by the affinities that bind people together who are working for the same principle, following the same ideal, but also by that solicitude, by that attachment which you have unceasingly manifested toward us. We cannot forget how greatly you helped and encouraged our beloved Directress when she undertook her tour of propaganda in America. If the dream of the New School at Bagatelle is becoming a reality, if the walls are rapidly rising in the park of that beautiful estate, it is in a large measure due to your far-reaching influence in helping our dear Dr. Hamilton who went over to you with the courage and self-abnegation that make of her life an apostolate. Our beautiful new school will constantly remind us of the noble and generous acts of that wonderfully altruistic country which is yours. During the autumn or winter evenings when we gather together in the library, we will find much to help us forget our day's fatigue, to improve our minds, by the books which the Nurses' Association of the Presbyterian Hospital of New York have given us in memory of Amabel Roberts, who died on the battlefield of France; we will read the books this heroine has read, the books her family so generously offered us. Believe us, Miss Maxwell, that we are quite overcome by the many marks of sympathy and appreciation which we owe to our beloved Directress and all those who have collaborated with her in building up the reputation of our school. We have come to harvest the fruit of her life work and we will endeavor to show ourselves worthy of so glorious a past."

DOES CHARITY WORK PAY?

DEAR EDITOR: Metropolitan, hourly, private duty, or charity work. Does it pay? Which would you drop? Hourly nursing, because of ignorance on the part of the doctors and the public as to its advantages, does not pay much, a few straggly cases. Private duty pays, but to carry on the other work, I have

¹ This address will be found in the Foreign Department.